THE DISTINGUISHING FEATURE of the Law School’s program in health law is its genuine collaboration with the University’s School of Medicine and its Medical Center, which is consistently ranked among the nation’s top hospitals. At Virginia, law students can study health law in the clinical setting, interacting with medical students and physicians. They can also view the regulatory context through the eyes of physicians, inventors and health care administrators. Law faculty teach in the School of Medicine and Medical School professors teach in the Law School’s program. Law students and faculty have the opportunity to work with students and faculty from all medical specialties, including pediatrics, neurology, internal medicine (infectious disease and geriatrics) and psychiatry.

THIS COLLABORATION is further borne out in a number of interdisciplinary institutes and centers, including:

THE INSTITUTE OF LAW, PSYCHIATRY AND PUBLIC POLICY, directed by law professor Richard J. Bonnie, is a joint effort of the Law School and the School of Medicine.

UVA’S CENTER FOR GLOBAL HEALTH, led by Dr. Rebecca Dillingham, focuses on health as a human value and engages across multiple disciplines.

THE VIRGINIA CENTER FOR TRANSLATIONAL AND REGULATORY SCIENCES, established in 2013 under the leadership of Dr. Robert Meyer, promotes advances in regulatory methodologies and engages in efforts to improve regulatory processes for proposed and marketed products.

J.D.-M.P.H. (PUBLIC HEALTH) PROGRAM
In conjunction with the Department of Public Health Sciences at the School of Medicine, the Law School offers a dual degree in public health. The students in the program can enrich their health law course work with a wide range of graduate courses in health policy and management, health economics, ethics, global health, social and behavioral health, environmental health and research methodology. The M.P.H. program offers concentrations in generalist practice and research, health policy, and law and ethics, and includes field placement options in global health, health policy and public health sites.

Instituted in 2003 by the Law School, the School of Medicine and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, the combined J.D.-M.P.H. program takes four years to complete and requires a minimum of 116 credits.

J.D.-M.D. PROGRAM
Designed to educate the next generation of health leaders, the J.D.-M.D. program allows students to complete law and medical degrees in six years, instead of the seven years normally required if the degrees were pursued separately. Students spend the first three years and the summer of year five in classes at the School of Medicine, and years four and five at the Law School. In the final year, one semester is spent in each school. Students are required to secure admission separately to the School of Medicine and UVA.
COURSES AND SEMINARS

Advance Directives in Health Care: Innovation and Impediments
Ageing and the Law
Bioethics and the Law
Changing Practice of Medicine
Drug Product Liability
Ligitation: Principles and Practice
Food and Drug Law
Genetics and the Law

Global Health Law and Policy
Health Care Marketplace: Competition, Regulation, and Reform
Health Law Survey
Israeli Health Law and Bioethics
Law and Business Management in the Healthcare Sector
Law and Ethics of Human Subject Research
Law of Reproduction
Legal Issues at the End of Life
Medical Malpractice and Health Care Quality

Mental Health Issues in Juvenile Justice
Moral Dimensions of Policymaking in the United States
New Frontiers in Health Law and Clinic Ethics
Public Health Law and Ethics
Psychiatry and Criminal Law

CLINICS

Global Health Law Clinic
Health Law Clinic

Faculty

School of Law
Margo Bagley (biotechnology)
Richard J. Bonnie (mental health law, aging and the law, bioethics, public health law)
Douglas Leslie (health law and policy)
Deborah Hellman (bioethics)
Julia Mahoney (reproductive technologies)
Gregory Mitchell (law and psychology)
John Monahan (mental health law)
Margaret Foster Riley (bioethics, biotechnology, food and drug law, health law)
Gil Siegal (health law, bioethics)
Thomas R. White III (aging and the law)

School of Medicine/UVA
Ruth Gaare Bernheim (public health, bioethics)

Bruce Cohen (psychiatry)
Dewey Correll (psychology)
Richard L. Guerrant (infectious diseases)
Thomas Massaro (pediatrics, health law and policy)
Robert J. Meyer (regulatory science)
Daniel Murrie (psychiatry)
M. Norman Oliver (family medicine)
Eileen Ryan (psychiatry)
Lois Shepherd (disability law, health law and bioethics)
Lawrence Silverman (genetics)
Janet Warren (psychiatry)
Andrew C. Wicks (business ethics)

Batten School/UVA
Randall Lutter (economics, regulation)
Eric Patashnik (politics, health policy)
Christopher Ruhm (economics, health policy)
Raymond Scheppach (politics, health policy)

OTHER FACULTY
James Childress, John Arras and other University of Virginia professors teach bioethics courses. The Sadie Lewis Webb Visiting Professorship brings to the Law School eminent scholars such as Albert R. Jonsen, professor emeritus of the University of Washington, and R. Alta Charo from the University of Wisconsin law and medical schools.

UVA Law graduates are working in all sectors of health care, including law firms, industry and government. For example, William B. Schultz ’74 (above) is the general counsel of the Department of Health and Human Services and Michael R. Taylor ’76 is deputy commissioner for foods at the Food and Drug Administration.

Twenty UVA Law and Business Graduate Students recently traveled to Israel for the six-day January term course Israeli Health Law and Bioethics. The class covered topics such as patient rights, end-of-life care, reproductive decision-making and malpractice, and involved field trips to the Chaim Sheba Medical Center near Tel Aviv, the largest hospital in the nation, and the Supreme Court of Israel in Jerusalem.

“Although I understood the general framework of Israeli law and governance, some of the details were more exciting than I would have guessed,” said Peter Hilton ’13. “Sitting through a court proceeding, all in Hebrew, even for only 10 or 15 minutes, can really give you a flavor of Israeli courtroom drama, which is very different than ours.”